# TRAVANCORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

## FOURTH COUNCIL.

## FIRST SESSION OF 1106.

*Monday, the 10th August, 1931/25th Karkatakam, 1106.*

**(*OFFICIAL REPORT.*)**

The Council met in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall at Eleven-thirty of the Clock, the President presiding.

The following members were absent :

1. Mr. I. C. Chacko.
2. Mr. K. Madhavan Pillai.
3. Mr. L. J. T. Polgreen.
4. Mr. R. S. Subrahmanya Pillai.

## QUESTIONS.

*Prescription as text-books of publications of Messrs. K. Arnold and Co., Madras.*

104. **MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattu*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they have enquired if there is any firm at Madras by name Messrs. K. Arnold and Co., whose publications are found prescribed as text books this year (1106); and

(*b*) if they have so enquired, the particulars of the activities of that firm, the nature of its activities, the reasons why that firm deserves encouragement at the hands of the Government ?

**MR. K. GEORGE** (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) No, nor is this considered necessary.

(*b*) In view of the answer to part (*a*) above, this question does not arise.

**MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*) : In view of the answer to part (*a*) of the question, may I know from the member how the Government made sure that the particular firm would financially be able to supply the text-books prescribed by the Government ?

**MR. K. GEORGE** (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The question is whether Government have enquired if there is any firm at Madras by name Messrs. K. Arnold and Co. whose publications are found prescribed as text-books this year. The existence of the firm was of no doubt to Government. Government did not doubt that there was not any firm.



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MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): And so, am I to understand that the Government made themselves sure that there was such a firm as Arnold and Company?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Oh, yes. They knew there was a firm because the firm had submitted its books.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Is it not suggested by the answer to part (*a*) that the Government did not make any enquiries regarding the existence of such a firm?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government do not make any specific and detailed enquiry about the existence of any firm?

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Without making enquiries, I wish to know, how the Government arrived at the conclusion that there was a firm like Arnold and Company?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): When books published by the firm are sent up, the presumption is that there is a firm.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): May I know whether Government had any occasion to see other books published by the firm before these books were sent up to them?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I claim notice. I cannot answer that question just now.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): With regard to the same question, am I to understand that the Government are ready to extend their patronage to firms irrespective of the nature of their activities, antecedents, etc.?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not think that arises as a supplementary question. The Text-Book Committee approved certain books and sent up a list of approved books to the Government. From that list, Government selected the books to be prescribed. It is not the concern of the Government to see to the activities of the firm.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): I wish to invite the attention of the member to part (*b*) of the question wherein I had asked the Government specifically about the activities of the firm, etc., to which the Chief Secretary replied that it was no concern of the Government. I ask, Sir, whether the Government are indiscriminately extending their patronage to firms and companies irrespective of the nature of their activities?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): My answer is this. The Text-Book Committee approves books and sends up a list of the books so approved to the Government. It is not the concern of the Government to see more than that the books selected are good. Whether the activities of the company are in the Madras Presidency or in the Cochin State is not the concern of the Government.

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**MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*) : And so, am I to understand that the Government are not at all concerned with the activities of any firm when they extend their patronage ?

**MR. K. GEORGE** (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : They are only concerned with the activities of the firm in connection with the publication of the text-books.

*Prescription as text-books of books not examined by the Vernacular Text-Book Committee.*

105. **MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether any book that has not been submitted for the examination and decision of the Text-Book Committee (Vernacular Branch) has been prescribed as text-books this year (1106); and

(*b*) if so, why that has been done and whose books they are ?

**MR. K. GEORGE** (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) This question does not arise, in view of the answer to part (*a*) above.

**MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*) : With reference to the answer to part (*a*) of the question, may I know from the member whether a book called 'The World Geography' that stands prescribed for the V class has been submitted to the Text-Book Committee ?

**MR. K. GEORGE** (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I claim notice. I have no information here about that question.

*Mr. R. Kulathu Aiyar's text-books.*

106. **MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state the number and names of books written by Mr. R. Kulathu Aiyar that were prescribed as text-books during the last six years on various subjects ?

**MR. K. GEORGE** (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The member is referred to the respective lists of text-books published in the Educational Sheets of the *Gazette*.

**MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*) : Am I referred to these various issues of the Gazette because Government are not in a position to supply information, and this is the way in which they have been supplying information in regard to questions of this nature ?

**MR. K. GEORGE** (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I do not know, Sir, how that arises as a supplementary question.

**PRESIDENT** : That is not a supplementary question. I may further say that where there are publications from which the information can be got the members may be referred to these publications for information. That is what is generally done.

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